

**Cragin Memorial Library Board of Trustees
Meeting of March 12, 2008**

Present: Mary Ellen Mahoney, Chair; Celia Conrad, Treasurer; Julianna Cameron; Rev. Linda Barnes; Ronald Goldstein; A. Victor Horvitz; Alyssa Soby, Secretary; Siobhan Grogan
Absent: Linda Hodge; Edwin Cragin; Jeffry Mathieu

Mary Ellen Mahoney called the meeting to order at 9:07 am.

The minutes of the December 19, 2007 meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve made by Celia Conrad, seconded by Julianna Cameron, and unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Discussion about checking account expenses and fees, and book funds.

The Fund Balance is \$216,732, from \$223,632 in December. Mary Ellen Mahoney questioned the declining Fund Balance, which Celia Conrad attributed to the declining stock market and the interest being insufficient to cover the fees. Victor Horvitz questioned whether better interest rates might be available.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report made by Mary Ellen Mahoney, seconded by Ronald Goldstein and Julianna Cameron, and approved unanimously.

Director's Report:

Town of Colchester Budget Process: Siobhan Grogan met with the Board of Finance in the previous month.

Young Adult Area: Half of the furniture reconfiguration is complete. Young Adult area opened in Zagray Room. New shelving units expected 4/11/08 in adult new book/reading area, along with new signage for that area and for reference. Saved \$8500 from last estimate; thanks to Roland Brunet's efforts refinishing old shelving. Mary Ellen Mahoney to send thank you letter to Roland Brunet, on behalf of the Board of Trustees. Library will still need new end panels for the adult area.

Building: Experienced leak three weeks ago. So far budget going well, given rising energy costs: electricity at \$3,000/month and heating at \$16,000/year.

Newsletter: New website for the whole town to launch Friday, March 14, 2008 includes Library news blog, which has allowed staff to post cancellations and other news.

Friends of the Cragin Library are having an on-going book sale. They rescheduled their February book sale event for the weekend of April 4th and 5th.

Motion to approve made by Celia Conrad, seconded by A. Victor Horvitz, and approved unanimously.

Old Business:

Ronald Goldstein is finishing up work on the trustee personal property lease with Linda Hodge. This item should continue as old business.

Mary Ellen Mahoney confirmed that Trustees do not have to be sworn in.

Discussion about publishing the minutes on-line. The Board of Trustees is not a town entity, so FOIA does not apply. However, Board agreed with Ronald Goldstein that nothing would be gained by not being open.

New Business:

Jacqueline Shefcyk of Portland, Connecticut donated a book to the Library that documents a constitution for the establishment of a library in Colchester, dated 1806 – fifty years prior to the earliest town records. The donor indicated that the book had been in the possession of the Day Family. Ronald Goldstein suggested that the book be given to Stanley Moroch, Colchester's Town Historian, for authentication. Linda Barnes suggested getting the name of the donor's grandmother.

The Board agreed to meet for a strategic retreat on Saturday, May 17th at 9:30am, to define its future philosophy and role.

Next quarterly meeting will be Wednesday, June 11, 2008 at 9:00 am in the Library.

Motion to adjourn made by Ronald Goldstein, seconded by Julianna Cameron, and approved unanimously at 10:00 am.